



Message from Mayor Muhammad

Dear Citizens of Forest Heights,

I have a few words during this time of uncertainty surrounding the Coronavirus outbreak.

You know that it is my number one priority to make sure that my administration has taken action to provide information and to protect the public from potential exposure to the Coronavirus.

As Mayor, I have recently taken a few unprecedented steps to maximize the Town's ability to stay informed, avoid exposure and combat the Coronavirus.

Some of these steps are listed below:

- All mass gatherings in Town Hall are suspended until further notice
- The Town Hall building is closed to the general public and staff until further notice (essential staff access only)
- Town Council meetings/other municipal gatherings will be held remotely until further notice
- Daily Coronavirus monitoring and coordination with State, County, local authorities are on-going
- Teleworking protocol has been implemented for all non-essential town employees
- Town parks and gathering spaces are closed to the public until further notice
- Coronavirus protection protocol has been developed and implemented for Town police officer response to calls for service
- Virus information is routinely updated on the Town website

We have posted contact information for you to access our Town Departments and services at the Town Hall building and on the Town website. **We are available to serve the citizens and respond to your needs.**

Here are several good practices that experts agree will help you avoid exposure to the virus:

- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds multiple times a day. An alcohol-based hand sanitizer can be used if soap and water are not available
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Practice social distancing

If I have symptoms, what should I do?

The symptoms currently associated with the Coronavirus are fever and respiratory symptoms, such as cough and shortness of breath:

- Stay home from work or school until you are free of fever, signs of fever and any other symptoms for at least 24 hours without the use of medications.
- Seek medical attention if you have reason to think you have been exposed to the Coronavirus.

CALL YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER TO SCHEDULE A VISIT.

Please visit the Town Website www.forestheights.gov or, www.coronavirus.gov for more information.

We know these are difficult and stressful times, but this crisis will end. Rest assured your Town, in conjunction with State and County authorities is prepared and well-equipped to respond. We are stronger together, and together we will make a difference.

Mayor Muhammad

Town of Forest Heights



Mayor Muhammad has cancelled all large gatherings held in the Municipal Building through Thursday, April 23, 2020.

The Town Meeting, First Monday and Third Wednesday of each month, is closed to the public. For citizen public period questions please email the Town Clerk Sherletta Hawkins at shawkins@forestheightsmd.gov before 12:00 noon of each First Monday and Third Wednesday of the meeting.

Community News



Town of Forest Heights

5508 ARAPAHOE DRIVE
FOREST HEIGHTS, MARYLAND 20745-1998
(301) 839-1030
Fax (301) 839-9236

Habeeb-Ullah Muhammad
Mayor

March 11, 2020

FOREST HEIGHTS ELECTION BOARD TALLEY SHEET

WARD I CANDIDATES

WRITE-INS	<u>0</u>
CALVIN WASHINGTON	<u>30</u>
ABSENTEE	<u> </u>
ILLEGAL BALLOTS	<u>1</u>

WARD II CANDIDATES

THERESA BROWNSON	<u>9</u>
JONATHON KENNEDY II	<u>47</u>
DAVID KIMBLE	<u>8</u>
WRITES-INS	<u> </u>
ABSENTEE	<u>2</u>
ILLEGAL BALLOTS	<u>4</u>

WARD III CANDIDATES

PAULA NOBLE	<u>48</u>
WRITE-INS	<u>3</u>
ABSENTEE	<u>1</u>

Certification of the March 11, 2020 Council Election

CHIEF JUDGE:	MR. FREDDIE COLSTON
ELECTION BOARD:	MRS. ELAINE PIPPINS
	MRS. EMMA ROWELL
	MRS. VERONICA SPEARS
ELECTION LIAISON:	MRS. SHERLETTA HAWKINS, TOWN CLERK

Community News



NOT RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER?

Mayor Muhammad has posted the March/April Newsletter online at forestheightsmd.gov, under Town Clerk and under Newsletters. If you have any questions call 301-839-1030 or email kvia@forestheightsmd.gov.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FHPD K9 TEAM

On Thursday, February 13, 2020, Cpl. Khari Grooms and his K9 partner Kuno (bottom left) graduated from the Charles County Sheriff's Office K9 School. The ceremony was broadcast live on the Town's Facebook page. Mayor Muhammad, Town Administrator Linwood Robinson, Councilman Washington, Councilwoman Taunya Hines, and Chief Rease attended the ceremony. Mayor Muhammad is excited to have a fully trained K9 team to support our police department and to protect and serve our community.



FHPD ON PATROL

The Forest Heights Police Department is out and on patrol through the Town, keeping our community safe and engaged. Thanks to Mayor Muhammad for the bicycle program.



IMPORTANT REMINDER!

FROM THE FOREST HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT



FOREST HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT
(301) 839-4040 | 5508 ARAPAHOE DRIVE
OXON HILL, MARYLAND 20745
f @FORESTHEIGHTSPD

Criminals usually target unlocked vehicles or those that have visible items of value. Don't be an easy target! Be smart and stay safe.

FOREST HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR SERVICE FEBRUARY 2020

911 DISCONNECT	17	SUBJECT STOP	3
ACCIDENT	5	SUSPICIOUS PERSON (s)	6
ANIMAL COMPLAINT	1	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE (occupied)	6
ASSAULT COMBINED	1	THEFT JO	3
ASSIST	1	THEFT REPORT	2
ASSIST FIRE EMS	2	TRAFFIC COMPLAINT	6
BREAK IN IN PROGRESS	2	TRAFFIC HAZARD	2
BREAK IN REPORT	1	TRESSPASSING COMPLAINT	1
CHECK WELFARE	2	UNKNOWN TROUBLE	8
CHECK WELFARE COMBINED	5	VEHICLE ACCIDENT COMBINED	1
DISORDERLY	9	WARRANT SERVICE	1
DOMESTIC	6	Total Calls Handled:	199
FAMILY DISPUTE	6		
FIGHT	1		
FOUND	1		
GUNSHOTS	1		
HOLD UP ALARM	1		
MISC POLICE INCIDENTS	9		
PREMISE CHECK	81		
PROPERTY ALARM COM.	1		
PROPERTY DAMAGE	1		
RESIDENTIAL ALARM	4		
ROBBERY	1		
SCHOOL ALARM	1		

POLICE STATION

5508 ARAPAHOE DRIVE

This Station is Open to the Public

Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

301-839-4040

(Emergency) 911 (Non-Emergency)

(301) 352-1200



Community News : EVENTS POSTPONED

As a precaution to the coronavirus outbreak, the Town Hall Building is closed to the public and Town employees until further notice.

“Mayor Muhammad believes it is in the best interest of public safety, and recover efforts and the protection of property that the exercise of certain rights be temporarily limited, and the conditions of this order are designed to provide the least necessary restriction on those rights.”

Please see the list of emergency contacts below if you require assistance:

Public Works Director: Mr. Larry Vaughn: 240-993-9243

Code Enforcement Officer: Mr. Joseph Hawkins: 240-640-6289

Police Clerk Services: Ms. Tessie Hoffmann: 240-917-4078

Administrative Services: Ms. Kathleen Via: 240-758-9761

CALL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES

Events postponed or canceled as Forest Heights responds to COVID-19:

2020 Census Family Game Day: Postponed

April Healthy Heights Seminar: Canceled

Spring Free Dump Week: Postponed

Spring Clean Up: Postponed

April Senior Exercise Classes: Canceled



SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2020 from 9AM-12PM

FOREST HEIGHTS HEALTHY HEIGHTS SEMINAR NEWS

APRIL SEMINAR CANCELLED

The March Seminar on finding your inner caregiver was held on **Monday, March 9, 2020 from 1-2PM**. Thanks to Ms. Anne Craymon with the Prince George's County Senior Provider Network Speakers Bureau for speaking at this event.

On February 10, Desiree Williams with the Prince George's County Department of Aging and Disabilities answered questions about enrollment in Medicare. We had a tremendous turnout of people who learned about what Medicare can provide.

Are you doing all you can for your health?

Senior Exercise Class meets Mondays and Wednesdays. CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.



Community News

The Honorable Sue. E. McGinnis
First African American Elected Mayor
First Woman Elected Mayor
In the history of the Town of Forest Heights

February 12, 2020

Paula Noble

The Town of Forest Heights, Prince Georges' County, Maryland, has its own history of firsts. As we celebrate the February, Black History Month and March, Women's History month, the first African American and woman to be elected and hold the Office of Mayor was **Sue E. McGinnis**. Sue E. McGinnis vigorously campaigned and won. She walked the Town, from **Ward I**, Arapahoe Drive, Ottawa Street, Pitt Lane, Quade Street, Shawnee Drive, Modoc Lane, Miles Drive, Alden Way to **Ward II**, Sumner Lane, Terrell Avenue, Arapahoe Terrace, Sachem Lane, Sachem Drive, Delaware Drive, Cree Drive, Woodland Drive, N. Huron Drive, Seneca Drive, Mohican Drive, Talbert Drive to **Ward III**, Cree Drive, Black Hawk Lane, Iroquois Way, Rolph Drive, Fox Way, S. Huron Drive, Onondaga Drive, N. Huron Drive, and Seneca Drive.

Every Saturday, around 7:30 am or so, before Sue E. McGinnis became the Mayor, she and a group of neighbors walked the trail near the Bell Acres Park. During this time, the group talked about the good things about living in the Town as well as ways to improve it. Even back then the talk was about the streets and how some had fallen in disrepair.

Mayor McGinnis was very much involved with the Forest Heights Elementary and Flintstone Elementary schools. Mayor McGinnis was a force to be reckoned with. Mayor McGinnis demanded and received the fair share the town was entitled. Mayor McGinnis was the lobbyist for the Town.

Mayor McGinnis talked the talk and walked the walk from the Town of Forest Heights to Upper Marlboro to Annapolis. Although the Town of Forest Heights was on the map, Mayor McGinnis made the County and State pay attention. The town could no longer be ignored. Most of the townspeople supported her efforts.

Mayor McGinnis created many firsts in the Town including programs for the youth and seniors, business forums/roundtable, partnerships with the local faith based community, community policing and various outreach programs. She was instrumental in the discussion with the State, County, and the Wilson Bridge project. Mayor McGinnis brought them all to the Municipal Building for the residents as well as Glassmanor, Birchwood City, and other surrounding communities in Oxon Hill and Fort Washington affected by the Wilson Bridge project to ask questions, address concerns and issues. The Talbert Drive project was initiated and completed under her leadership. The project allowed for new sidewalks with handicap accessibility. The Forest Heights Elementary School students were able to safely walk to school. Talbert Drive was an example of the future street projects to come in the Town.

Mayor Sue E. McGinnis lead by example. She opened her home to the community. She was a 'real' people person, always willing to help and not purposely cause any hardship to the residents of the Town of Forest Heights. She cared.

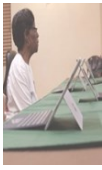
Prior to the election of Sue E. McGinnis, the Town's mayors had all been male and white, Osborne (1949), Armhold (1951), Adams (1973), and Cook (1999). For the Town of Forest Heights, it was a new day. Sue E. McGinnis was elected as the Mayor.

The Town of Forest Heights will be defined by its history. And, what a history! Sue E. McGinnis was elected Mayor on May 9, 2001. Sue E. McGinnis, the first African American elected. Sue E. McGinnis, the first woman elected since the Town was incorporated in 1949, fifty two years later. Seventy one years later, in 2020, the Town has new neighbors to include, The National Harbor, MGM Resort, Tanger Outlets, and Rivertowne.

Thank you **Mayor Sue E. McGinnis** for setting an example of leadership for the Town. Thank you, **Mayor Sue McGinnis** for your commitment, dedication, and service to the Town of Forest Heights, Prince George's County, Maryland—the Gateway to the District of Columbia, Washington DC, Alexandria Virginia and Southern Maryland.



Mayor SUE MCGINNIS
Served 2001-2003



Forest Heights/Oxon Hill 2020 Census Computer Labs

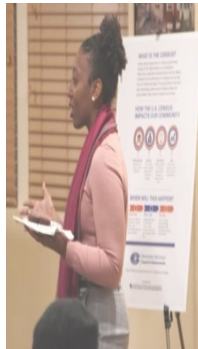
The Town of Forest Heights had originally planned to open and operate a free computer lab for completing the Census 2020. Due to matters of public safety, we will not be holding any large gatherings in the Municipal Building, but we encourage people to start completing their forms online or by mail. Stay tuned for further information about any postponements of upcoming events. Everyone counts because everyone is counted.



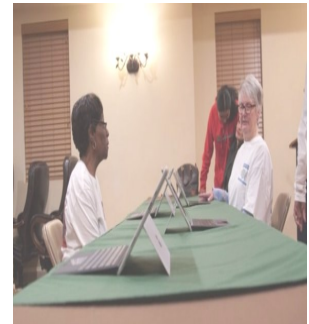
2020 CENSUS BINGO DAY

On Saturday, March 7, 2020, there was a Free Bingo event for the community. We had a great turnout and gave out prizes, including a 50 inch television. All activities are cancelled or postponed in the interest of public safety, we ask that you stay tuned for the announcement of future events. In addition to the newsletter (available online), events are published on the Town website at forestheightsmd.gov, on the Town's Facebook page, and on Nextdoor. You can also call the Information line for a summary of events at 240-993-6998, or call Town Hall at 301-839-1030.

FOREST HEIGHTS/OXON HILL 2020 CENSUS HUB KICKOFF



On Friday, February 21, 2020, the 2020 Census Hub Kickoff was held at the Forest Heights Municipal Building. We had a turnout of over 50 people, including representatives from the offices of US Senator Chris Van Hollen and County Councilmember Calvin Hawkins. We had several computers set up so that people could participate in the Census online. The Census deadline is April 1, 2020, so we encourage those who have not already taken part to do so. Thanks to Mayor Muhammad, our Circuit Rider Mr. Stanley Mosley and the Forest Heights staff who made this event possible.



SELF DEFENSE AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING SEMINAR



On Saturday, February 22, 2020, the FHPD held a seminar to raise awareness about the issue of human trafficking. There were demonstrations with Councilman Washington on how you can defend yourself. There was also a brief speech about the importance of participating in the upcoming Census. Thanks to Deputy Johnson (left) of the Prince George's County Sheriff's Department and Chief Rease for this informative session.



FOREST HEIGHTS/OXON HILL CENSUS 2020 MOVIE MATINEE



Mayor Muhammad hosted a Census 2020 Movie Matinee on Sunday, February 23, 2020 the Addams Family (2019). Several families joined in for an afternoon of fun and the chance to win door prizes. We hope that you will join us in our upcoming events designed to promote awareness about the importance of the 2020 Census.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

On Saturday, February 15, 2020, Mayor Muhammad held a thank you reception for all the volunteers and sponsors that have helped with Town projects and events. Mayor Muhammad appreciates everyone who has given their time and attention to make this Town great. If you are interested in volunteering, call 301-839-1030.

*****EWCWSS****

Local Forest Heights
Post Customer

PRSWRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

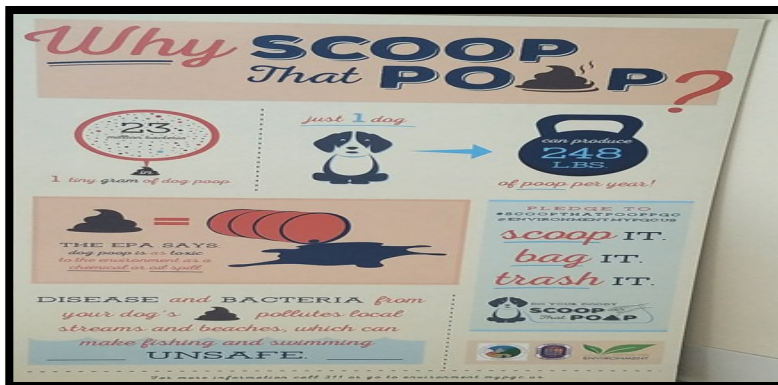
Community News (continued)



WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Apply for weatherization upgrades that can make your home more energy efficient. Applications can be found at the Forest Heights Municipal Building or online at <http://www.e2f2.us/blog/>. Applications can be dropped off at the mailbox at the municipal building. **Veterans and Retired homeowners will be given preference.** For more information, email Mrs. Sherletta Hawkins at shawkins@forestheightsmd.gov.

Pet Waste Station Reminder



FROM THE TOWN CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
MR. HAWKINS **Grass Heights** should be Below 8" inch.

Leash Law. It is against the law for the owner or custodian of any animal to allow the animal to run at-large. Any dog or cat that is found at-large may be impounded. A

violation Notice may be issued to the owner of an animal found. **Scoop that Poop.** The owner or custodian of any dog or cat must remove their pet's excrement from public or private property.



Trash/Recycle Collection is to be placed at the curb the night before collection.



PICK-UP DAYS BEGIN AT 6:30 a.m.

MONDAY—Trash, Yard Waste & Recycling

Forest Heights Residents:

Yard Waste must be placed in paper bags or trash cans marked Yard Waste.

Tree limbs must be tied together in small bundles

Not to exceed 4 feet in length.

THURSDAY—Bulk (Three Items or Less) NO METAL

Mayor Habib-Ullah Muhammad—ext. 1223

Hmuhammad@forestheightsmd.gov

TOWN COUNCIL

Ward I

Robert Barnes

rbarnes@forestheightsmd.gov

Calvin Washington

cwashington@forestheightsmd.gov

Ward II

Jonathon Kennedy II

jkennedy2@forestheightsmd.gov

Clifton Atkinson

catkinson@forestheightsmd.gov

Ward III

Taunya Hines

thines@forestheightsmd.gov

Paula Noble

pnoble@forestheightsmd.gov

ADMINISTRATION

Linwood Robinson, Town Administrator—ext. 1234

lrobinson@forestheightsmd.gov

Sherletta Hawkins, Town Clerk—ext. 1233

shawkins@forestheightsmd.gov

Kathleen Via, Administrative Assistant—ext. 1229

kvia@forestheightsmd.gov

Leittia Vaughn, Town Treasurer—ext. 1235

lvaughn@forestheightsmd.gov

Larry Vaughn, Public Works Director—ext 1231

ldvaughn@forestheightsmd.gov

POLICE DEPARTMENT

(301) 839-4040

Chief of Police, Col. Anthony Rease—ext. 1224

chief@forestheightsmd.gov

Tessie Hoffmann, Police Clerk—ext. 1225

Lisa White, Director of Communications

FHPD_Media@forestheightsmd.gov

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE

Joseph Hawkins—ext.1228

codeenforcement@forestheightsmd.gov

HEALTHY HEIGHTS COORDINATION

Marnisha Moore, Healthy Heights Coordinator

mmore@forestheightsmd.gov

Information Line (240) 493-6998

Non-Emergency (301) 352-1200

EMERGENCY DIAL 911

www.forestheightsmd.gov

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Phone (301) 839-1030 Fax (301) 839-9236
8:30a.m.—5:00 p.m. Building closed until further notice.